



AGENDA

Parks and Recreation Advisory Board
March 13, 2014 7:30 a.m.
1401 Recreation Way

(Please turn off your cell phone during meeting)

CALL TO ORDER

CITIZEN DISCUSSION

Time for any individual to bring before the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board any matter of interest they wish to discuss that is not on the agenda. *(Time limit: three minutes or as may be established by the Chair)*

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Minutes from February 13, 2014 meeting
*(Minutes will be posted after 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday of the week of the meeting.
Website: www.springsgov.com -- Your Government -- Parks and Recreation Advisory Board)*

CEREMONIAL ITEMS

- Kaiser Permanente Colorado Spring Walk and Wheel Grant: A Collaboration
Between Parks, Transit and Kaiser Permanente to Expand Active Walking and Biking in Colorado Springs
Brian Kates, Program Coordinator

PRESENTATION

- Pickleball Update Don Knight, Councilmember
- I-25 / Cimarron Interchange Project Discussion Chris Lieber, Manager, Park Development and TOPS Program

ACTION ITEMS

1. International Association of Fire Fighters (IAFF) Fallen Fire Fighters Memorial Site Expansion Kurt Schroeder, Manager, Park Operations and Development
2. Request on Behalf of Rivers Development to Approve the Proposed Trails at Forest Meadows Neighborhood Park Master Plan located within the Woodmen Heights Master Plan Chris Lieber, Manager, Park Development and TOPS Program

ACTION ITEMS (Cont'd)

- | | |
|--|--|
| 3. Request on Behalf of La Plata Communities to Approve the Proposed Farm Master Plan Amendment (formerly: Allison Valley Ranch Master Plan) | Chris Lieber, Manager, Park Development and TOPS Program |
| 4. Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Memorial at Memorial Park | Sarah Bryarly, Landscape Architect |
| 5. Board Support for an Application for a 2014 Colorado State Forest Service Forest Restoration Grant for Forest Health Improvements in North Cheyenne Cañon | Jeff Webb, Senior Analyst |

STAFF REPORT

- | | |
|--|--|
| ➤ Update on Parks Master Plan | Chris Lieber, Manager, Park Dev. & TOPS |
| ➤ Grants Update: <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Manitou Incline- Legacy Loop Project- Fitness Zones- Learning Landscapes- City Auditorium Seats | Jeff Webb, Senior Analyst |
| ➤ FEMA Update | David Deitmeyer, Landscape Architect |
| ➤ Bear Creek Watershed Update | Kurt Schroeder, Manager, Park Operations and Development |
| ➤ Camp Creek Drainage Update | Kurt Schroeder, Manager, Park Operations and Development |
| ➤ Macy's Partnership with NRPA to Support Garden of the Gods Park - "Heart Your Park" Fundraising Program | Karen Palus, Director, PR&CS |
| ➤ Top 10 Mountain Bike Cities in North America | Karen Palus, Director, PR&CS |
| ➤ City Staff Appointments: <ul style="list-style-type: none">- City Attorney: Wynetta Massey- Airport Director: Dan Gallagher- Deputy Chief of Staff: Bret Waters | Karen Palus, Director, PR&CS |
| ➤ Joint Parks Board and TOPS Working Committee Retreat: April 2 nd , 8:00 a.m.-12:00 noon at the El Pomar Penrose House | Karen Palus, Director, PR&CS |
| ➤ Upcoming Events: <ul style="list-style-type: none">- 6th Annual Lyrical Lounge – Poetry Competition: March 14th, 6:00 p.m. at the City Auditorium- Daddy Daughter Dance: April 5th, 6:00 p.m. at the DoubleTree Hotel- Arbor Day Ceremony: April 22nd, 11:00 a.m. at the Pioneers Museum (Tree Planting in Alamo Park) | Karen Palus, Director, PR&CS |

BOARD BUSINESS

- Board/Committee Reports and Remarks

ADJOURNMENT

Items of Information for Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Members

Article from the Gazette

- "Rock Ledge Ranch rich with history in Colorado Springs", March 2, 2014

Article from KXRM (Fox 21 News)

- "Colorado Springs on top 10 list for mountain biking in the U.S.", March 5, 2014

Article from Single Tracks

- "The Top 10 Mountain Bike Cities in North America", March 3, 2014

Minutes

- Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Minutes – February 13, 2014
(Available via website: www.springsgov.com → **Your Government** → **Parks and Recreation Advisory Board**)

COLORADO SPRINGS PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT

PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD

Date: March 13, 2014

Item Number: Ceremonial Item

Item Name: **Kaiser Permanente Colorado Springs Walk and Wheel Grant: A Collaboration Between Parks, Transit and Kaiser Permanente to Expand Active Walking and Biking in Colorado Springs**

BACKGROUND:

In the summer of 2013 Kaiser Permanente, the state's largest nonprofit healthcare organization, extended a request for grant applications for funding of up to \$100,000 to local governments seeking to increase walking and biking in their communities. Recognizing the tie between recreation, community health and livable cities, Parks Department staff put together a comprehensive proposal supporting both infrastructure improvements and the creation of new programs designed to support active transportation in Colorado Springs.

Unbeknownst to the Parks Department, the City's Transit Division was putting together their own grant application to Kaiser Permanente to expand their popular Bike to Work Day initiative. Recognizing that our two applications shared the common goal of increasing recreation and expanding active transportation, Parks and Transit teamed up to create a single collaborative and complimentary project proposal. This joint Colorado Springs Walk and Wheel grant application proposed a project scope that would:

- Create six new community-wide cycling events.
- Expand the number of locations for Bike to Work Day.
- Build two first-of-their-kind "Bicycle Library Workshops" at our community centers.
- Add a number of bike racks to popular parks.
- Expand the Department's Bicycle Counter program.
- Fund a Colorado College Public Interest Fellowship Program (PIFP) Fellow to support the Department.
- Fund staff to support the Transit Division's Bike to Work Day initiative.
- Hire a 2015 Parks Department AmeriCorps VISTA Volunteer.

In late 2013 we received the exciting news that Colorado Springs was one of several cities selected to receive \$100,000 from Kaiser Permanente. Of this amount, approximately \$40,000 will go towards the Transit Division's programs and the remaining \$60,000 will be used for Parks Department initiatives. Together these funds will help Colorado Springs greatly expand its efforts to support walking and biking across our region.

We are extremely grateful for the generosity of Kaiser Permanente and are excited for the possibilities this grant holds for our City. With an ongoing Regional Bicycle Master Plan, millions of dollars in new trails and on-street bicycle improvements planned for the several years, the timing of this grant could not be better. By working collaboratively as a City and by partnering with outside organizations like Kaiser Permanente, we are confident that this project will bring great benefits to the citizens of Colorado Springs.

CURRENT STATUS:

We wish to thank the representatives from Kaiser Permanente (CJ Moore, Meredith Jones, and Steve Barron) who have provided the City with this opportunity. Additionally we wish to thank the Transit Division (Craig Blewitt and Vicki McCann) for their partnership in our shared efforts.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

None. Information only.

ACTION NEEDED BY THE BOARD:

None. Information only.

PARTIES NOTIFIED OF THIS MEETING:

Kaiser Permanente: CJ Moore, Meredith Jones and Steve Barron

Public Works Transit Services: Craig Blewitt and Vicki McCann

COLORADO SPRINGS PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT

PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD

Date: March 13, 2014

Item Number: Action Item #1

Item Name: **International Association of Fire Fighters (IAFF) Fallen Fire Fighters Memorial Site Expansion**

BACKGROUND:

Since 1987 the International Association of Fire Fighters (IAFF) have maintained a partnership with the City of Colorado Springs. The Fallen Fire Fighters Memorial is located in the northeast portion of Memorial Park at the corner of Pikes Peak Avenue and Hancock Avenue. The Memorial displays the names of some 2,700 fallen fire fighters and each year another 60 to 100 members are added during the annual ceremony. In 2011 the IAFF leadership committed to capturing all of the names of the fallen fire fighters of the IAFF since 1918. This commitment has driven the plans to expand and redevelop the existing site.

The new plans are to:

- Provide a new look and approach to the Memorial.
- Address long-term function and sustainable features.
- Provide a strategy to restore/replace the old honor walls with new expanded walls for up to 12,000 named individuals.
- Site and Memorial signage and historical markers.
- Memorial plaza site paving needs and restoration.
- Investigate the site features associated with the Sculpture alignment.
- Site improvements to meet “personal reflection” for family and the growing number of ceremony guests and areas for individuals who visit the Memorial during non-events.
- Address a better presence and image from the parking lot.
- How to better anchor the Memorial into the larger park and elevate the image and presence for the International Association of Fire Fighters, “the International Importance”.

CURRENT STATUS:

In February of 2013, Thomas and Thomas met with the IAFF Fallen Fire Fighters Memorial Committees to discuss the parameters, goals, and objectives of the redevelopment project. Per recommendations from the Committees, the IAFF Principal Officers directed Thomas and Thomas to develop concept plans based on these goals and objectives. Thomas and Thomas and IAFF representatives met with park staff on April 17th and went over conceptual plans for the redesigned memorial and accepted input from park staff. Thomas and Thomas incorporated the suggested modifications into the plan concepts and then in May met with the Principal Officers and appropriate IAFF staff to review the various concepts. At the conclusion of this meeting, the Principal Officers instructed Thomas and Thomas to develop a more detailed project plan based on the preferred concept. This concept plan has been reviewed by the IAFF and approved so that Thomas and Thomas can work toward a final design.

On June 13, 2013, Thomas and Thomas presented the proposed modifications to the Memorial to the Park Advisory Board. Board feedback included modification of the wording on the sign to assure that Memorial Park was mentioned and that it was clear that it was a City of Colorado Springs Park and not just the IAFF Memorial. The request was also made to assure that there was a view corridor from the intersection so that the sculpture was easily visible. Since that meeting Thomas and Thomas has refined the plan, has reviewed those modifications with Park staff, and garnered the approval of the design by the IAFF Fallen Fire Fighters Memorial Committee.

The new plan strives to incorporate the Park Advisory Board recommendations by redefining the curb appeal of the site, improving parking lot access, including new landscape plantings and a new plaza. The plaza will provide additional granite walls for the future honorees. The improvements will also install new lighting and provide a new orientation for the annual ceremony (east to west). Maintenance of the memorial will continue to be provided by the IAFF per existing agreements.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends that the Board approve the proposed Memorial design plans as presented and supports implementation of the new design.

ACTION NEEDED BY THE BOARD:

A motion approving the proposed modifications of the IAFF Fallen Fire Fighters Memorial as presented and supporting implementation of the new design.

PARTIES NOTIFIED OF THIS MEETING:

International Association of Fire Fighters

COLORADO SPRINGS PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT
PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD

Date: March 13, 2014

Item Number: Action Item #2

Item Name: **Request on Behalf of Rivers Development to Approve the Proposed Trails at Forest Meadows Neighborhood Park Master Plan located within the Woodmen Heights Master Plan**

BACKGROUND:

Rivers Development has requested approval of The Trails at Forest Meadows (4.5 Acre) Neighborhood Park located northeast of Woodmen and Vollmer Roads. The Trails at Forest Meadows is a total of 86.37 acres, part of the Approved Woodmen Heights Master Plan, which falls within the Woodmen Heights Metropolitan District, and is bounded by Black Forest Road on the west, Cowpoke Road on the South, and Vollmer Road on the east.

CURRENT STATUS:

The Trails at Forest Meadows (4.5 Acre) Neighborhood Park is proposed to be developed in conjunction with the single family lot construction, and built in two phases. The first park phase (play equipment, shade, picnic shelters, landscape and irrigation) will be built in conjunction with Filing 2 lot development; with Phase 2 (multi-purpose field, sport court, walking loop, community garden area, landscape and irrigation) built in conjunction with the future Filing 4 lot development.

The Filing 1 Development Plan was approved on 10/11/13 and is under development. The Filing 2 Development Plan has been submitted to the Land Use Division, and is currently under review, pending the Parks Board's recommendation.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends approval of the Trails at Forest Meadows Park Master Plan.

ACTION NEEDED BY THE BOARD:

A motion approving The Trails at Forest Meadows Master Plan, in accordance with the Ownership and Maintenance language of the Annexation Agreement; that the Developer will construct all park elements within Filing 4 lot development; zone the parcel PK; dedicate this 4.5 acre park land to the Woodmen Heights Metropolitan District; with the Woodmen Heights Metropolitan District having full maintenance responsibility.

PARTIES NOTIFIED OF THIS MEETING:

Bryan Kniep, RLA, Rivers Development

COLORADO SPRINGS PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT

PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD

Date: March 13, 2014

Item Number: Action Item #3

Item Name: **Request on Behalf of La Plata Communities to Approve the Proposed Farm Master Plan Amendment (formerly: Allison Valley Ranch Master Plan)**

BACKGROUND:

La Plata Communities has requested an amendment to (the) Farm Master Plan (formerly known as Allison Valley Master Plan), consisting of 475 acres of land located between Interstate 25 and Voyager Parkway, north of InterQuest Parkway, to include changes to the land dedication and park credit calculation. (Further background is provided in the Project Statement handout).

CURRENT STATUS:

La Plata Communities has submitted to the Planning and Community Development Department this Master Plan Amendment, Planned Unit Development Plan (for Filings 1a, 1b, 1c, and 2) with corresponding Plat applications. The new proposed Master Plan requires a parkland dedication of 21.83 acres.

The currently approved 4 acre neighborhood park is now proposed as a 4.92 acre neighborhood park; 83 acres of open space/wetlands with a pedestrian bridge is now proposed as 79 acres with a pedestrian bridge plus two at-grade crossings; a 50 ft. (LaForet) trail corridor along Black Squirrel Creek is still proposed as a 50 ft. (LaForet) trail corridor (tract) with added (privately owned) amenity pocket parks open to the public; plus another 1.73 acre neighborhood park. The proposed Master Plan Amendment is balanced based upon using the average of the land densities, while also providing more recreational and trail opportunities to the public than in the prior Master Plan.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends approval of the proposed Farm Master Plan Amendment.

ACTION NEEDED BY THE BOARD:

A motion approving the proposed Farm Master Plan Amendment with newly balanced land dedications per the Annexation Agreement for 21.83 acres of parkland to be built by the Developer, owned and maintained by the created District with exception of the LaForet Trail (physical trail) maintenance which will be the responsibility of the City of Colorado Springs.

PARTIES NOTIFIED OF THIS MEETING:

Angela Essing - La Plata Communities
Public Notification – Post Card Mailing

COLORADO SPRINGS PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT
PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD

Date: March 13, 2014
Item Number: Action Item #4
Item Name: **Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Memorial at Memorial Park**

BACKGROUND:

The Memorial Park Master Plan identifies specific areas for the development of future memorials within Memorial Park. The City of Colorado Springs Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Department has received a request from Emergency Medical Services (EMS) to erect a memorial in honor of the fallen EMS Honorees. In December of 2013, EMS presented a concept for the memorial to the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board.

CURRENT STATUS:

EMS has refined the design concept and the design has been reviewed and approved by the Arts Commission. EMS is now seeking formal approval from the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board for the memorial as a precursor to an extensive fundraising campaign.

The proposed memorial is to be located on the south side of the Memorial Park Recreation Center, west of the Circle of Honor. The memorial will begin at the parking lot with a Welcome Area; visitors will then move through intimate reflection spaces where Honorees will be listed on Oak Leaf Honoree Panels. Here families can celebrate, mourn, and contemplate the lives of their loved ones, in peace and tranquility. Their experiences will terminate at the Lower Plaza where seating and a pergola will be provided. This area will create a space where stories can be exchanged, smaller ceremonies can be shared, and views of Pikes Peak can be enjoyed.

EMS will be responsible for all costs associated with creating and erecting the memorial. Perpetual maintenance of the memorial, including repairs stemming from vandalism, theft, weather or other acts or events, is the responsibility of EMS.

Currently EMS has hired a professional fundraiser to assist with compiling the funds necessary to construct this memorial. The funds will be allocated towards construction of the memorial, in addition to creating an on going maintenance fund. The construction timeframe is contingent on successful fundraising. It is the goal of the EMS Board to begin construction in late 2014.

Staff has met with the YMCA, the service provider at the Memorial Park Recreation Center, to discuss potential impacts to parking. The YMCA supports the development of the memorial and is supportive of restriping the parking lot to provide improved access to ADA parking stalls.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends approval of the EMS Memorial as presented.

ACTION NEEDED BY THE BOARD:

A motion to approve the EMS Memorial as presented.

PARTIES NOTIFIED OF THIS MEETING:

Rachel Brenna & Andy Dufford, Chevo Studios
Tim Sayer, EMS Board Representative
YMCA

COLORADO SPRINGS PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT

PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD

Date: March 13, 2014

Item Number: Action Item #5

Item Name: Board Support for an Application for a 2014 Colorado State Forest Service Forest Restoration Grant for Forest Health Improvements in North Cheyenne Cañon

BACKGROUND:

In 2009 the Colorado General Assembly approved HB 09-1199 providing funding for forest restoration projects that protect water supplies (including watersheds, water storage and water delivery systems) and that reduce the threat of large high intensity fires. The Colorado State Forest Service doles out these funds in the form of grants to public landowners and land managers.

Parks Department staff is seeking Board Approval to pursue this grant to conduct forest restoration work in approximately 110 acres of North Cheyenne Cañon near the Starsmore Discovery Center. This 110 acres of Forestry-led work will help to reduce the continuity of oak brush stands, reduce the density of timber stands, and provide for greater vegetation diversity within the project site. The net effect of this project will be to reduce the risk of wildfire in North Cheyenne Cañon and protect critical water supplies located near the project area.

The total cost for this project is anticipated to be \$250,000. The grant requires a 60/40 match, with the Forest Service providing 60% of the required funds and the Parks Department providing the remaining 40% of needed funding. This cost share gives a total grant request of \$150,000. The Parks Department funding will come from previously appropriated funds dedicated to fire re-education and forest restoration projects.

CURRENT STATUS:

The Colorado State Forest Service Forest Restoration Grant is due on March 20, 2014. With Board approval, Department staff is prepared to submit all required materials for this application. Parks staff has held a public meeting at the site with neighbors, members of the Friends of North Cheyenne Cañon, and the general public to give feedback on the project. Additionally, staff has discussed the project in detail with Colorado Springs Utilities (CSU), the Rocky Mountain Field Institute (an environmental restoration organization), the Board of the Friends of North Cheyenne Cañon, and El Paso County Parks. In every case the community has expressed support for this project. Additionally CSU has pledged funds to help support this project.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends that the Board give approval to pursue a Colorado State Forest Service Forest Restoration Grant in the amount of \$150,000 for forest health improvements in North Cheyenne Cañon..

ACTION NEEDED BY THE BOARD:

Board approval for this grant application.

PARTIES NOTIFIED OF THIS MEETING:

N/A